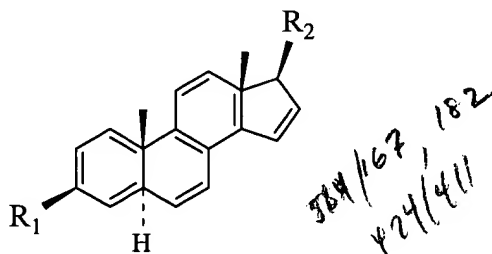


We claim:

1. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a bacterial infection in a mammal which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a compound having the formula



wherein :

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkanoyl or Y-substituted alkanoyl

wherein Y is alkyl, aryl or halo; and

R<sub>2</sub> is amide, or X-substituted amide wherein X is a peptide or an amino acid;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt and/or hydrate thereof, or where applicable, a geometric or optical isomer or racemic mixture thereof.

2. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> is alkanoyl and R<sub>2</sub> is X-substituted amide wherein X is an amino acid residue.

3. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> is acetyl and R<sub>2</sub> is prolyl.

4. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 wherein said compound has the formula: 3 $\beta$ -acetoxy-17 $\beta$ -(L-prolyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -androstane.

5. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5 in a form suitable for topical administration.

